

I will guarantee you they are all better than nothing. And the Congress should pass one of those bills and send it to me this year. It would be a great Christmas present to the American people to stand up for safety.

Finally, let me just say that each of us in our own way are going to ask ourselves what we can do to deal with this. We have a culture of violence. We glorify it. I was delighted to see some of the television networks voluntarily say that they were going to do their best to try to monitor the content of violence and reduce it and degradation of people during prime time television.

We have got to take a whole generation of young people who have very short attention spans for whom the future has no claim because they cannot even imagine the future, and slowly, carefully, and one-on-one, neighborhood by neighborhood, community by community, help them to rebuild the kind of inner strength and sense of values and discipline and control and hope that will permit us to go where we need to go. No law will do that, but that is not an excuse not to pass these laws.

So I ask you today, here in this great place, let us recommit ourselves to keeping what's right about the health care system and to expand the reach of what is right when we can, with universal coverage, by giving pharmaceutical products to the elderly who are not poor enough to be on Medicaid but are on Medicare and the working people whose children may need it. Let us do that.

And let us have the courage to admit that some of these problems we will never fix until we change our ways as a Nation, and let's start with violence, begin with guns, and prove that we can do in America what you are doing here in New Jersey. Thank you and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:41 p.m. in the Atrium. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Jim Cahill of New Brunswick; Sheriff Armando Fontura of Essex County; Harvey A. Holzberg, president and chief executive officer, and Dr. Jeffrey Hammond, chief, trauma surgery and critical care, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital; and Patricia Jones, mother of a patient with a gunshot wound.

Nomination for an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture

October 8, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate Fred Slabach as Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at the Department of Agriculture.

"Fred Slabach knows how important the Agriculture Department is to rural Americans. I

know he will represent their concerns fairly in Washington, with this administration and with Congress," the President said.

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration

October 8, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate Wally B. Beyer, the general manager of a North Dakota electric cooperative for the past 30 years, as Administrator for the Rural Electrification Administration at the Department of Agriculture.

"With his many years working to provide electricity to rural Americans in North Dakota,

Wally Beyer is exactly the type of person we need at the helm at the Rural Electrification Administration," the President said. "I am pleased he has joined our team."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.